

Tom Horne  
Superintendent

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ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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**HORNE RELEASES NEW DATA ON AIMS**

PHOENIX (Thursday, June 23, 2005) -- State School Superintendent Tom Horne today released data showing that 87% of the high school students, who would otherwise have graduated in the class of 2006, have now passed all three AIMS tests, with two more tries before graduation.

Horne explained: "The class of 2006 has 63,500 students. Based on historical data, about 45,720 would graduate if there were no AIMS test. 39,700 have now passed all three AIMS tests which is 87% of the number who would graduate if there were no AIMS test."

Horne added: "We are working hard to increase our graduation rate and have added a full-time position devoted to that goal. But the historical graduation rate is relevant in judging the impact of the AIMS test."

The class of 2006 who have passed AIMS, 44,300 have passed math; 48,300 have passed reading; and 49,300 have passed writing; 39,700 have passed all three.

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